IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled)

Claim 19 (Original): A method of manufacturing a fuel injector, comprising:

providing a valve group subassembly comprising:

a tube assembly having a longitudinal axis extending between a first end and a second end, the tube assembly including an inlet tube having an inlet tube face;

a seat secured at the second end of the tube assembly, the seat defining an opening;

an armature assembly disposed within the tube assembly, the armature assembly having an armature face, at least one of the armature face and the inlet tube face having a first portion generally oblique to the longitudinal axis;

a member biasing the armature assembly toward the seat;

an adjusting tube located in the tube assembly, the adjusting tube engaging the member and adjusting a biasing force of the member;

a filter assembly located in the tube assembly, the filter assembly engaging the member and adjusting a biasing force of the member; and

a first attaching portion;

providing a coil group subassembly including:

a solenoid coil operable to displace the armature assembly with respect to the seat; and

a second attaching portion;

inserting the valve group subassembly into the coil group subassembly; and

connecting the first and second attaching portions together.

Claim 20 (Original): The method according to claim 19, wherein the armature includes at least one radial facing surface, the method further comprising:

masking the at least one radial facing surface; and

hardening the armature face.